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DAN SMOOT

OUR LIBERAL LEADERSHIP

The Neighborhood Youth Corps (a poverty-war agency) is supposed to give part-time jobs to "disadvantaged" teenagers from poverty areas. The teenagers do such chores as cleaning up vacant lots and parks, chopping weeds, helping out at hospitals. Each corpsman gets $173.33 a month for working 32 hours a week.

There have been cases of cities setting up Neighborhood Youth Corps operations for the sole purpose of getting from the federal government tax money that was "going down the hatch anyway."[1] There have been cases of political favoritism: Neighborhood Youth Corps jobs going not to needy youngsters, but to teenagers from prosperous families who have positions or influence in the political party that controls the local program.[1]

For the most part, however, Neighborhood Youth Corps appointments go to Negro youths in big northern cities for summer employment which is supposed to avert riots by giving the young Negroes income and something to do.

In 1967, the federal government allocated to New York City $13.1 million to pay for 23,900 Neighborhood Youth Corps jobs for 10 weeks during the summer. The director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps in New York City is a bearded Negro militant named Willie J. Smith, former official of the pro-communist Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Smith's salary as NYC director is $18,000 a year.

Smith, encouraged by Mayor John V. Lindsay, kept on hiring corpsmen after the NYC corps had reached the 23,900 figure set by the federal allotment; and by the end of summer, 1967, he had 43,000 on his payroll — 19,100 more than had been authorized. Lindsay tried to get additional money from the federal government to pay the youth corpsmen hired in excess of the city's quota. Federal agencies refused to oblige, and the city had to appropriate $5.2 million to make up the deficit.[2]

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Lindsay accused President Johnson, Secretary of Labor Willard Wirtz, and Congress of "turning their backs on the cities" and of increasing the danger of "violence and bloodshed in the streets."[2] Lindsay's hot words were answered in kind by Washington Democrats who accused the Republican Mayor of trying to shift the whole burden of New York City's poverty war onto the federal government.

In April, 1968, Wirtz announced that, because Congress had reduced poverty war appropriations for the new fiscal year, the amount allocated for New York City's Neighborhood Youth Corps for summer jobs in 1968 would be $10.7 million, instead of the $13.1 million allocated for the summer of 1967.

Egged on by Lindsay, Senator Jacob Javits (New York Republican), supported by Senator Ralph Yarborough (Texas Democrat) tried to include in a supplemental appropriations bill, $75 million to be used for Neighborhood Youth Corps jobs during the summer of 1968, in addition to those authorized by regular appropriations. Lindsay expected New York City to get 10% ($7.5 million) of the $75 million supplemental appropriations. The Senate passed the Javits-Yarborough proposal twice, but the House turned it down.

On July 9, 1968, both Houses of Congress compromised on a $13 million supplemental appropriation for Neighborhood Youth Corps summer jobs. Lindsay expected New York City to get $1.3 million — 10% of the total; but on July 10, Secretary Wirtz announced that New York City would get only $1 million of the supplemental appropriations.[2]

Lindsay reacted with vituperative attacks on President Johnson, on Wirtz, and on the House of Representatives for its "meat-ax reduction . . . in the supplemental appropriation for antipoverty programs."[3]

Wirtz retorted that Republican Lindsay, while condemning the Democrat administration in Washington for not providing enough money for Neighborhood Youth Corps jobs in New York, had allocated *no* city tax money to the program. Lindsay said there was absolutely no city tax money available.

On July 10, 1968, Willie J. Smith injected some action into the political "dialogue." He led a mob of about 1500 young toughs to City Hall for a demonstration *demanding* more money for summer jobs.[4]

Many of the demonstrators were Smith's employees — that is, they were Neighborhood Youth Corpsmen already on the federal payroll. They had been rallied for the demonstration by inflamatory leaflets, distributed (at taxpayers' expense, of course) through Negro and Puerto Rican neighborhoods. For a while, the demonstrators milled around City Hall shouting and carrying signs, saying: "Raise our Funds or we raise Hell," "Sock it to my Pocket," "No Money — no Peace."[4] But then they got down to the serious business of demonstrating.

The teenage poverty warriors stomped in the tops of parked cars, ripping off windshield wipers and radio antennas to throw at police, along with slabs of broken windshields and windows, rocks and bottles. Four policemen were reported hit and injured. The demonstrators knocked down a 50-year-old white woman (who is an assistant to the New York Secretary of State) and rifled her purse. They clubbed one newspaper dealer to the ground, took all the money out of his apron and scattered his papers. Other news dealers and hot-dog vendors in the area saved their persons by abandoning their property and running. Windows in the nearby Woolworth Building were broken, and a few miscellaneous businesses in the neighborhood were looted.[4]

Police guarded the entrance to City Hall but made no effort to stop the violence that swirled around them. Sixty rookies from the police academy, sent to help contain the riot, were not permitted to carry nightsticks. After about 3 hours, the tumult had burned itself out somewhat; and there were enough police on hand to charge and disperse the hoodlums without hurting them.

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The riot ended. Police managed to arrest 9 people, charging 2 of them with inciting a riot. Willie Smith — who not only incited, but organized and led the riot — was not arrested.

Willie Smith said:

"Violence — that's the only thing this city understands."[4]

Mayor Lindsay was in Washington at the time, but he sent a telegram saying:

"Some progress was being made [toward getting more tax money from federal agencies]. The disgraceful demonstration at City Hall has substantially set back these efforts and maybe killed any hope. If so, the young men of the city who are jobless this summer can place responsibility on the leaders of this demonstration who already have jobs."[4]

But the next day (July 11) Lindsay — who had maintained that New York City had no tax money for the Neighborhood Youth Corps summer jobs program—said the city was appropriating immediately $3 million for more Youth Corps summer jobs, and might raise that amount to $5 million.[2,3,5]

Willie Smith was temporarily suspended from his job as NYC director, while city officials "investigated" his role in the City Hall riot; but no one expected him to be off the payroll for long. Poverty warriors demonstrated, threatening to "raise hell" if he were disciplined; and a *New York Times* news story warned that Smith's dynamic leadership was needed in the city's poverty areas this summer.[6]

On July 14, 1968, Mayor Lindsay reemphasized that crime does pay. Lindsay appointed, to the New York City Board of Education, a Negro preacher who has been arrested 9 times for law violations committed while protesting against city school policies. The preacher is Milton A. Galamison, pastor of a Presbyterian church in Brooklyn.[7]

In saner times, these events in New York City might startle the populace; but today, they are routine news copy. Mayor Lindsay is routine too. He has been much touted as a progressive liberal, the very model of the kind of bright new leadership the nation needs in the White House.

But, actually, Lindsay is just a typical liberal, basically the same as the one now in the White House, not substantially different from any (except George Wallace) of the present candidates for President. Ideologically, Republican Mayor Lindsay is a duplicate of Democrat Secretary of Labor Wirtz, with whom he has been feuding — and of all other liberals of whatever party or position throughout the United States.

Note some other incidents which prove the point.

In Albany, New York, several Negro high school students have been hired as "consultants" in the State Education Department, drawing salaries (from poverty war funds) of $16 a day each. On July 15, 1968, Dr. James E. Allen, Jr., New York State Education Commissioner, told the consultants what their duties are:

"Your job is to frankly criticize what you have been taught in American history in your schools, especially in regard to the contributions of Negroes and other minorities."[8]

The Institute for Defense Analysis (IDA) was founded as a non-profit organization, by a $500 thousand Ford Foundation grant in 1956. Its function is to perform research, under government contracts, for various federal agencies. Membership in IDA consisted of 12 major universities, which got all the lucrative government contracts for IDA research projects. The IDA has been responsible for research which developed ideas and techniques on how to disarm the United States unilaterally, how to surrender American sovereignty to the United Nations, how to condition the public to accept plans for disarmament and world government, how to make the U. S. public less truculent about administration efforts to appease and help the Soviet Union. It was an IDA study which developed the rationale for the policy of "managed

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news" — a policy initiated by the Kennedy administration, continued by Johnson. "Managed news" is a euphemism which means that government has a right to lie to the public in order to create and retain public support for government policies.[9]

Such IDA studies have been widely criticized by American conservatives — but with little effect. Government — though paying for the research projects, and generally using their conclusions as guidelines and rationale for policy — disavows responsibility for the projects when they are criticized. Government officials claim that IDA research is the work of a "private" organization, made solely for the purpose of providing ideas that government officials can contemplate.

Other IDA studies have dealt with such matters as weapons systems evaluation, research and engineering, communications techniques for the armed forces, and so on. *These* IDA studies have been denounced by new-left student groups. Pro-communist student organizations have attacked the 12 universities that were members of the Institute for Defense Analysis — demanding that the universities stop conducting research for the Defense Department. In fact, the riots at Columbia University this spring were aimed, in part, at forcing the university to sever its ties with the IDA."[10]

Whereas liberal academicians and politicians were contemptuous of conservative criticism of IDA studies, they cowered before the violence and obscene denunciations of pro-communist students.

Most of the universities that were members of the IDA were on the point of cancelling their membership; but on June 4, 1968, the Institute for Defense Analysis reorganized itself in an effort to deflect pro-communist student protests. Henceforth, universities will not be members of IDA. University officials who had *represented* their schools in the IDA, will now be members as individuals, so that the IDA can say, with technical accuracy, that it has no formal connection with any university.[10]

Thus it is seen that the typical liberal leader of our time is not only cowardly, but also dishonest. Instead of expelling students who "protest" university policies by violating law and university regulations, liberal college officials try to appease the lawless militants with a technical maneuver which is, in essence, a lie.

We must have new leadership. The place to begin is at the polls. When we elect, to Congress and the White House, honorable men—committed to law and order *under the Constitution*, and determined to restore our constitutional Republic — we will establish a trend which will eventually bring the same kind of courage and honesty into positions of leadership in state and local governments, and in our institutions, both public and private.

Let's elect such men — this year!

FOOTNOTES

(1) "The Poverty Swindle," *The Dan Smoot Report*, Mar. 7, 1966, pp. 69-72 (See reprint prices below.)

(2) Article by Richard Reeves, *The New York Times*, July 12, 1968, pp. 1, 18

(3) AP dispatch from New York, July 12, 1968

(4) Article by Sylvan Fox, *The New York Times*, July 11, 1968, pp. 1, 27

(5) "Demonstration, Q.E.D.," editorial, *The Dallas Morning News*, July 15, 1968, p. D2

(6) Story by Sylvan Fox, *The New York Times*, July 12, 1968, p. 18

(7) AP dispatch from New York, July 15, 1968

(8) UPI dispatch from Albany, N.Y., July 16, 1968

(9) "The Meaning Of Change," *The Dan Smoot Report*, Sept. 21, 1964, pp. 297-302; articles by Edith Kermit Roosevelt in *The Shreveport Journal*, Jan. 5, 1963, and June 26, 1965, and in *The Wanderer*, February 13, 1964

(10) Article by David R. Jones, New York Times News Service, *The Dallas Morning News*, June 5, 1968, p. A3

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